

**IN THE ABSTRACT:**

On the separate page 11, after the last page (page 10) of the specification and claims, please replace the entire Abstract with the following Abstract section.

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**BOOTSTRAP CIRCUIT FOR SWITCHING POWER SUPPLIES**

**ABSTRACT**

A bootstrap circuit for switching power supplies (SMPS), a switching power supply including a bootstrap circuit, and an integrated circuit of a switching power supply, are provided. The bootstrap circuit (13) for switching power supplies includes a first supply voltage ( $V_{in}$ ) coming from a first terminal and a second supply voltage ( $V_{cc}$ ) coming from a second terminal and a third terminal (30). The bootstrap circuit includes: a first current path between the first terminal and the third terminal (30); a second current path between the first terminal and the second terminal; a third current path between the second terminal and the third terminal (30); and a two-way voltage regulator (M3, Dz2, R5, R6) placed along the second current path.

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